



Press Release

United States Representative  
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**CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON INTRODUCES RESOLUTION  
HONORING MEDGAR EVERS**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Today, United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) released the following statement:

“Medgar Evers was a pioneer in the struggle for civil rights and racial justice. He is perhaps the most under-celebrated martyr of our time; therefore, it is proper that we commemorate his dedication and unwavering efforts during the civil rights movement. His zeal for change shall never be forgotten.

“Almost ten years ago, we named a post office in Jackson, in Medgar’s honor. Now, we – the Congress - are on the verge of commending the lives of Medgar and his widow, Myrlie Evers-Williams. While we are in the midst of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death, it is only fitting that Congress pass this legislation.”

*Background: On June 12, 2003 the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Medgar’s assassination, Rep. Bennie G. Thompson introduced H. Con. Res. 220, a bill commending Medgar Wiley Evers and his widow, Myrlie Evers-Williams on their lives and accomplishments. Rep. Charles “Chip” Pickering, who represents Evers’ hometown of Newton, signed on as an original co-sponsor on June 12, 2003. The bill was referred to the House Government Reform Committee and is expected to be considered by the full House next week. On June 11, 2003, Sen. Thad Cochran introduced S. Con. Res. 54 - commending Medgar Wiley Evers and his widow, Myrlie Evers-Williams for their lives and accomplishments and designating a Medgar Evers National Week of Remembrance.*

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